

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

REVISED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
25 March 2004 (25.03.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/025508 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: G06F 17/30

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2003/003976

(22) International Filing Date:
15 September 2003 (15.09.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0221328.8 13 September 2002 (13.09.2002) GB
0307859.9 4 April 2003 (04.04.2003) GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): BRITISH
TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC LIMITED
COMPANY [GB/GB]; BT Group Legal, Intellectual
Property Department, PP C5A ,BT Centre, 81 Newgate
Street, London EC1A 7AJ (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): STEVENS, Timo-
thy, Sean [GB/GB]; 8 Melton Meadow Road, Woodbridge,

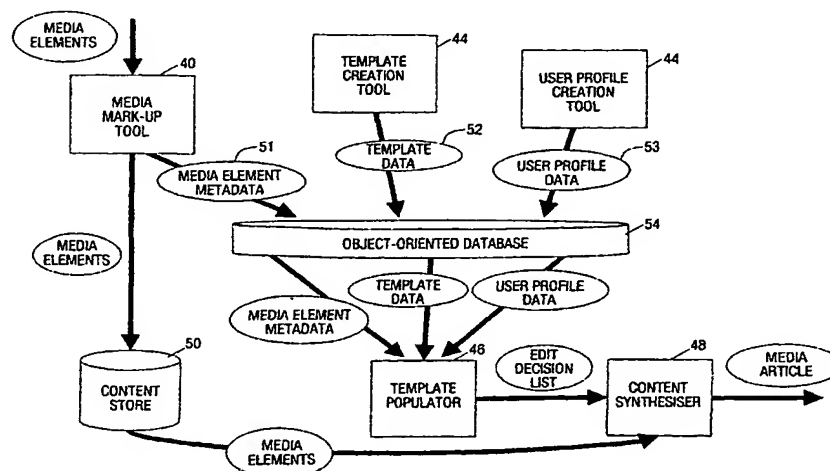
Suffolk IP12 1SB (GB). PALMER, Alex, Steven, John
[GB/GB]; 90 Ranelagh Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11
7HY (GB). KEGEL, Ian, Christopher [GB/GB]; 27
Banyard Close, Kesgrave, Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 2FR (GB).
THORNE, Jeremy, Michael [GB/GB]; 25 Nottidge Road,
Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 2RJ (GB). LIM, Louie, Kok, Seng
[GB/GB]; 52 Cemetery Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 2JA
(GB). LOHSE, Ludvig [DK/GB]; 23 Hallswelle Road,
London NW11 0DH (GB). RUSS, Martin [GB/GB]; 71
Farriers Close, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich, Suffolk IP5
3SN (GB). MORPHETT, Jason [GB/GB]; 41 Holton
Road, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8HG (GB). HAY, Adam
[GB/GB]; 28 Aston Drive, Bullwell Hall Estate, Notting-
ham, Nottinghamshire NG6 8BG (GB).

(74) Agent: ROBERTS, Simon, Christopher; BT Group Le-
gal Intellectual Property Department, Holborn Centre, 8th
Floor, 120 Holborn, London EC1N 2TE (GB).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,
CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE,
GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MEDIA ARTICLE COMPOSITION



(57) **Abstract:** A method and apparatus for the automatic composition of media articles is disclosed. Previous attempts to do this have involved the manual production of a detailed framework listing the types of media elements that might be inserted into the slots specified in that framework and the subsequent selection of media elements for those slots. The present invention improves upon this by associating metadata (51) with the media elements in a content store, which metadata includes relationship data indicating how what is portrayed by that media element relates to what is portrayed by one or more other media elements. Because relationship metadata is included media articles can be generated automatically with the need for the production of a detailed framework describing that media article.

WO 2004/025508 A3

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
25 March 2004 (25.03.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/025508 A3

(51) International Patent Classification?: **G06F 17/30**

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2003/003976

(22) International Filing Date:
15 September 2003 (15.09.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0221328.8 13 September 2002 (13.09.2002) GB
0307859.9 4 April 2003 (04.04.2003) GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY** [GB/GB]; BT Group Legal, Intellectual Property Department, PP C5A ,BT Centre, 81 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AJ (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **STEVENS, Timothy, Sean** [GB/GB]; 8 Melton Meadow Road, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 1SB (GB). **PALMER, Alex, Steven, John** [GB/GB]; 90 Ranelagh Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11

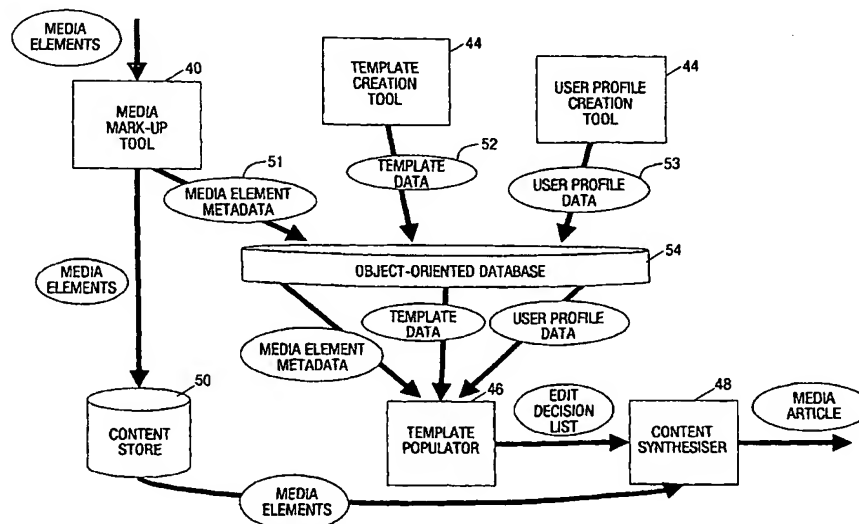
7HY (GB). **KEGEL, Ian, Christopher** [GB/GB]; 27 Banyard Close, Kesgrave, Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 2FR (GB). **THORNE, Jeremy, Michael** [GB/GB]; 25 Nottidge Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 2RJ (GB). **LIM, Louie, Kok, Seng** [GB/GB]; 52 Cemetery Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 2JA (GB). **LOHSE, Ludvig** [DK/GB]; 23 Hallswelle Road, London NW11 0DH (GB). **RUSS, Martin** [GB/GB]; 71 Farriers Close, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 3SN (GB). **MORPHETT, Jason** [GB/GB]; 41 Holton Road, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8HG (GB). **HAY, Adam** [GB/GB]; 28 Aston Drive, Bullwell Hall Estate, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire NG6 8BG (GB).

(74) Agent: **ROBERTS, Simon, Christopher**; BT Group Legal Intellectual Property Department, Holborn Centre, 8th Floor, 120 Holborn, London EC1N 2TE (GB).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **MEDIA ARTICLE COMPOSITION**



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for the automatic composition of media articles is disclosed. Previous attempts to do this have involved the manual production of a detailed framework listing the types of media elements that might be inserted into the slots specified in that framework and the subsequent selection of media elements for those slots. The present invention improves upon this by associating metadata (51) with the media elements in a content store, which metadata includes relationship data indicating how what is portrayed by that media element relates to what is portrayed by one or more other media elements. Because relationship metadata is included media articles can be generated automatically with the need for the production of a detailed framework describing that media article.

WO 2004/025508 A3



(84) **Designated States (regional):** ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

(88) **Date of publication of the international search report:**
29 July 2004

Published:

— *with international search report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB 03/03976

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06F17/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F G11B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>REHATSCHEK H, MÜLLER H: "A Generic Annotation Model for Video Databases" PROCEEDINGS OF VISUAL INFORMATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS, THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, VISUAL 99, AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS, JUNE 2-4, 1999. LECTURE NOTES IN COMPUTER SCIENCE, SPRINGER, vol. 1614, 1 June 1999 (1999-06-01), pages 383-390, XP001190869 Berlin, Germany abstract page 383 -page 390</p> <p style="text-align: center;">--- -/--</p>	1-16

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 April 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

08/06/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Bernardi, L

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB 03/03976

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DAY Y F ET AL: "A MULTI-LEVEL ABSTRACTION AND MODELING IN VIDEO DATABASES" MULTIMEDIA SYSTEMS, ASSOCIATION FOR COMPUTING MACHINERY, NEW YORK, US, vol. 7, no. 5, September 1999 (1999-09), pages 409-423, XP000912565 ISSN: 0942-4962 page 413 -page 420 -----	1,7,8
A	US 5 708 767 A (YEO BOON-LOCK ET AL) 13 January 1998 (1998-01-13) abstract figures 1,5 column 5, line 12 - line 50 column 2, line 30 - line 51 -----	1,7,8
A	WO 93/21636 A (AVID TECHNOLOGY INC) 28 October 1993 (1993-10-28) abstract figures 2-4 -----	1-7

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB 03/03976

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5708767	A	13-01-1998	NONE
WO 9321636	A	28-10-1993	AU 4279893 A 18-11-1993
		WO 9321636 A1	28-10-1993
		US 5724605 A	03-03-1998
		US 5752029 A	12-05-1998
		US 5754851 A	19-05-1998